

# AMERICAN CURRICULUM

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW!**



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The American curriculum is an extensive educational framework designed to provide students with a well-rounded and flexible education. It is often recognized by its emphasis on encouraging critical thinking skills, creativity and independent learning. The educational approach in the American curriculum is student-focused, aiming to grow a broader set of skills that prepare students for real-world challenges.

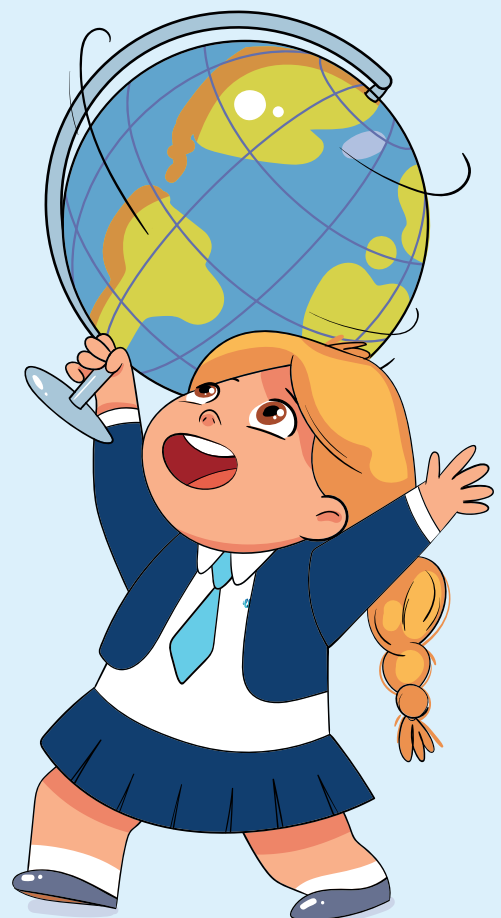
However, for many parents looking for the right school for their children, understanding American Curriculum and recognizing its unique qualities compared to other international curricula can be quite challenging. This guide will help you get the right answers and ask the right questions to make an informed decision about your child's education.

# WHAT IS THE AMERICAN CURRICULUM?

Schools following the American curriculum offer a combination of subjects, including language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, music, art and physical education. Beyond the core subjects, there is an emphasis on extracurricular activities and the development of interpersonal skills, encouraging students to explore their interests and passions.

The curriculum is developed to allow for flexibility, enabling educators to tailor instruction to the individual needs of students. This approach promises a personalized and interactive learning, where students are encouraged to actively engage in classes, ask questions, and participate in discussions.

Furthermore, the American curriculum places a significant emphasis on project-based learning, where students are encouraged to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios. The curriculum incorporates technology as a tool for learning, recognizing its role in preparing students for the demands of the modern world.



# BENEFITS OF AMERICAN CURRICULUM

The American curriculum has gained widespread recognition for its active and inclusive approach to education. International parents often favor American schools, as they are tailored to offer a foundational curriculum that equips students for enrollment in schools, colleges, and universities in numerous countries globally. This widespread recognition has increased the demand for American schools, particularly among students aspiring to gain admission to the finest colleges and universities.

**Here are some key pointers highlighting the advantages of the American curriculum:**



## Global Mindedness

The American curriculum emphasizes global awareness and cultural competence, preparing students to thrive in a connected world. Exposure to diverse perspectives promotes an understanding of global issues and open-mindedness.



## Hands-on Learning

The curriculum places a strong emphasis on hands-on, collaborative learning methods, encouraging students to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world situations. Through projects, field trips, and interactive activities, students develop practical skills and a deeper understanding of the subjects.



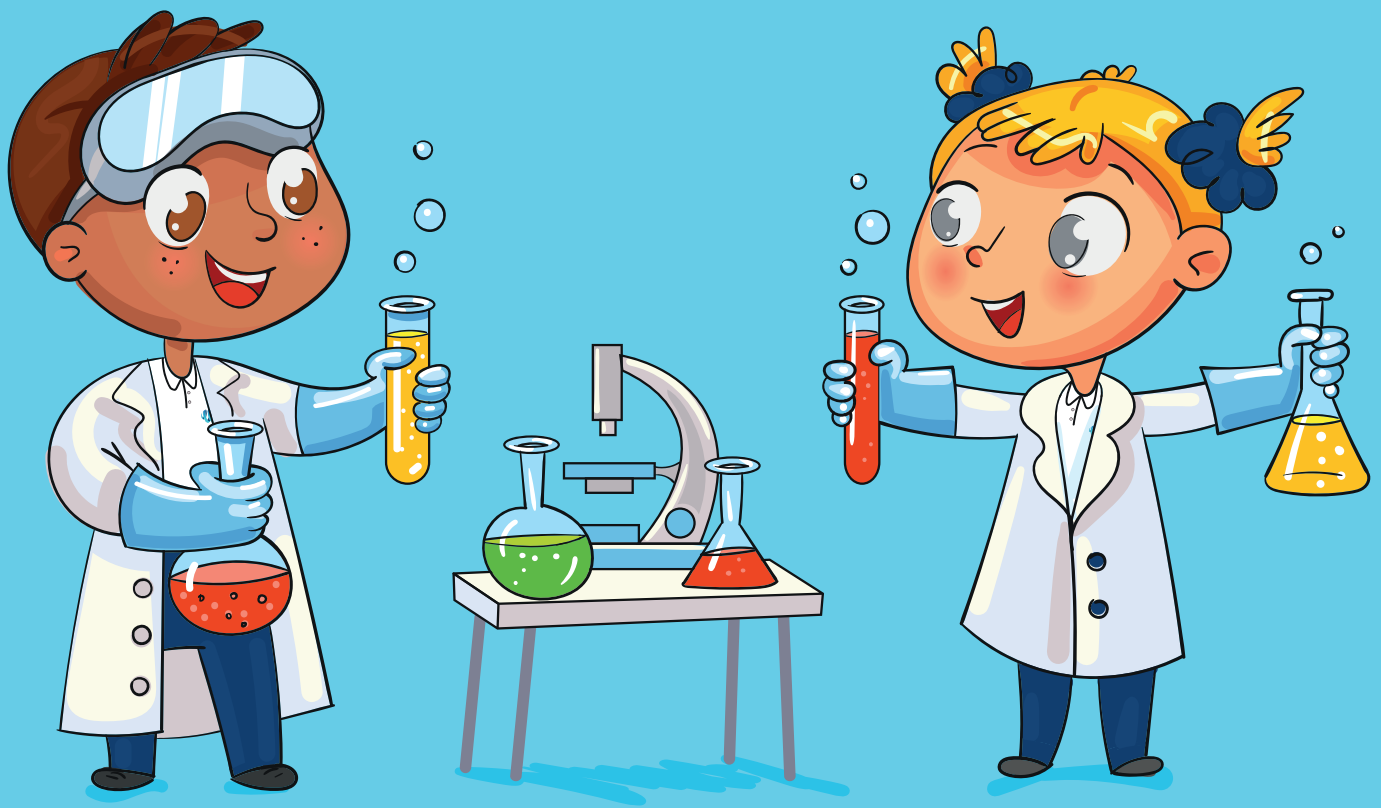
## Worldwide Recognition

Whether relocating for family reasons or pursuing higher education opportunities, the global recognition of the American curriculum ensures a smooth transition. With its worldwide acceptance, students moving between countries find themselves well-positioned to adapt to new educational environments.



## Focus on Technology Integration

The curriculum recognizes the significance of technology in the modern world and integrates it seamlessly into the learning process. Students are exposed to cutting-edge technology, enhancing their digital literacy and preparing them for the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



# WHY STARTING EARLY WITH AMERICAN CURRICULUM IS IMPORTANT

Positive interactions and relationships with educators form the bedrock of the American curriculum, recognizing that a child's connection with caregivers and teachers establishes a critical foundation for successful learning.

The curriculum places considerable emphasis on creating a favorable physical environment, understanding that the learning environment can significantly influence the type and quality of learning interactions that take place.

The creative curriculum within the American education system places utmost importance on encouraging exploration and independence. Starting early with this curriculum is all about instilling a love for learning, promoting curiosity, and fostering a sense of independence that lays a strong foundation for a lifelong journey of intellectual and personal growth.

# THE NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS (NGSS) AND COMMON CORE IN AMERICAN CURRICULUM

If you can relate to the American curriculum but feel puzzled when it comes to NGSS and Common Core, we got you.

## WHAT IS NGSS?

Science plays a crucial role in education, shaping our understanding of the world and in the context of futuristic learning, it becomes even more pronounced. Hence, the Next Generation Science Standards were introduced to bring a fresh perspective to the learning process by emphasizing the relevance of understanding of scientific concepts and principles. These standards are internationally benchmarked for the K-12 science curriculum with instructions and assessments on the most important aspects of science discipline. Based on grade levels the subjects under NGSS include Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space Science and Engineering.



## KEY FEATURES OF NGSS

**Integration of scientific and engineering practices**

**Emphasis on cross-cutting concepts that span multiple scientific disciplines**

**Encouragement of real-world application through hands-on experiments and projects**

**Encouraging for scientific discovery and exploration**

## WHAT IS COMMON CORE?

Common Core extends its influence beyond science and encompasses mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA). Introduced to bring standardization among learning standards schools across the world, the Common Core focuses on helping students understand subjects in-detail to help them prepare for universities and colleges. The assessment under Common Core analyzes how well students are doing in reading and math, which is meant to measure their learning capacities.

## KEY FEATURES OF NGSS

**Emphasis on developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills**

**Integration of ELA and mathematics standards to enhance interdisciplinary learning**

**Focused on preparing students for college and career readiness**

**Encourages depth of understanding and application of knowledge**



## HOW NGSS AND COMMON CORE COEXIST

While NGSS zeroes in on science education and Common Core covers a broader spectrum, the two frameworks are not mutually exclusive. In fact, they complement each other, working in sequence to create a balanced educational experience for your child. The integration of these standards ensures that students not only grasp scientific concepts deeply but also develop the critical skills necessary for success in various academic domains.



# WHY OWIS RIYADH?

OWIS Riyadh stays committed to being a true American school. Our multicultural learning environment with students from more than 40 nationalities ensure every child is being valued for who they are and what they want to be. Any curriculum forms its true shape with the presence of learning spaces that compensates it. At OWIS Riyadh, we made sure to build up-to-the-future infrastructure where students can explore their passion. Be it performing arts, sports, culinary arts or photography, there is opportunity for everyone.

Your checklist for an American school will be tick-marked here and we make sure that your child experiences the most equitable, holistic, potential fulfilling educational experience.

## CONTACT US

**Dropping the details below for you, and just so you know we are just a call away!**

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